



Community Appearance Commission

Minutes

June 7, 2006

The regular meeting of the Salisbury Community Appearance Commission was called to order Wednesday, June 7, 2006, at 4 p.m. by Barbara Perry, Chair, in the Council Chamber, 217 South Main Street, Salisbury, North Carolina. The following members were present and absent:

Present: Cindee Bridges, Greta Connor, Judy Kandl, Chad Morgan, Barbara Perry, Sara Robinson, and Bill Safrit

Absent: Suzette Davis, Barbara Lawther, Johnny Safrit, and Tom Wolpert

Staff: Councilman Mark Lewis, Lynn Raker, and Diana Moghrabi

Barbara Perry, Chair, called the meeting to order. Allocated commission funds have been spent for the year. The minutes of the May meeting were approved as published. New committee assignments were distributed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Art in Public Places

Barbara Perry reported that the Robertson Foundation tabled the grant request for the public art installation at the Innes Street Gateway Bridge for various reasons. The artist did not come to Salisbury as planned due to this outcome. Mark Lewis admitted his disappointment. He suggested that the committee lobby individuals who support the project. He feels the location is appropriate and it does not overpower the Gateway Park or the Bridge.

The Public Art Committee will meet June 8, 2006, to discuss the future of the project. The 8-member selection committee chose this art installation, which was endorsed by the City Council, to be site specific. There appears to be some miscommunication about the two years of preparation the committee did for the project and the challenge for private funding. Fundraising groups should not dictate the design and location of public art.

Barbara Perry will report to the CAC in August, since there will be no CAC meeting in July.

Lynn Raker will request a small grant from the Arts Council.

- The Loft Tour is still “under construction.”

Neighborhoods & Education Committee

- The committee worked on the neighborhood entrance signs for the City of Salisbury. A standard pole sign for all neighborhoods was decided on rather than a monument or “tombstone” style. It is important to use good materials with a feeling of permanence. Landscaping would be incorporated with the design. The conceptual pole design designates a residential area, especially since this style would not be used in a commercial area. The sign could be nicely decorated by the neighborhood for holidays and it gives a feeling of unity throughout the City of Salisbury. There is funding for the three neighborhoods that have previously been identified.
- Neighborhood Leaders Alliance Subcommittee met Thursday, June 1, 2006, at 4:00 p.m., at City Hall to discuss housing conditions in Salisbury. There is a lack of rehabilitation assistance for properties in Salisbury. Cindee Bridges recommended setting up a rehabilitation grant like the Innes Street and MSD grants. A tax return should be attached.

Chad Morgan believes the committee began as a focus on the corridors of the community and has expanded to something that may be too large for the committee to handle. Barbara Perry said that “our success has overwhelmed us.” The committee is still in an exploratory stage. It is important to follow through and to keep the leaders engaged in the process.

The meetings have enlightened the members about the CDC and Mr. Youngblood’s duties as well as their boundaries (financial, statutory, and staff). Lynn believes the assembling of the data and making a recommendation to City Council is all that the subcommittee can do. The secretary has a notebook of photos and property cards that offers a visual of the deteriorating housing conditions in Salisbury.

The Neighborhood Leaders Alliance will meet July 6, at 4 p.m. in the Council Chamber so they do not lose momentum.

Landscaping

The landscape committee has a sign up on Jake Alexander Boulevard at the Child Development Center and in the Harlan’s yard. The current signs will be used until they fall apart. Nominations for July are Henry Hampton, 307 Summit Avenue and Bank of North Carolina, 451 Jake Alexander Boulevard W.

The Landscape Committee will meet July 26 at noon in the first floor conference room.

Municipal Service District (MSD) and Innes Street Improvement Grants (ISG)

The Rowan Museum received an Innes Street grant in the amount of \$5,000 for their landscaping and flagstone paving in the back of the 1855 Courthouse in conjunction with the elevator addition.

Lynn still does not know how much money will be needed for the Freedman's Cemetery project. Hap's will not be eligible for the grant money if he waits until July to paint the building. He will have to reapply prior to painting. June 30 is the end of the cycle.

NEW BUSINESS

There was a discussion about the new budget and what amounts the CAC will receive. A new strategy is needed to get money for benches and trashcans. They have been requested for 6 or 7 years. Mr. Lewis suggested the CAC organize a campaign for items not received in this year's budget. Lynn has a map of where they should be placed.

Mr. Lewis recapped the issues that came up at a recent spirited City Council meeting. The question of parking trucks on the street—what size truck should the city allow in the driveway or on the street. There was a swimming pool in the front yard of the house discussed at the Council meeting; this was an above ground pool. You cannot have upholstered furniture on the front porch but you can have a swimming pool in the front yard? What water features are allowed in a front yard? What about the size of boats being parked at residences?

OTHER BUSINESS

- The Innes Street Gateway Railroad Bridge was nominated for a National award by NC DOT. A professional photographer is coming to take pictures.
- Private funding in the amount of \$335,000 has been given for enhancement streetscape at the I-85 interchange on Innes Street. Light posts are currently being installed.
- Judy Kandl submitted a photo of a tree which is lit at Christmas in Monroe. There is no money in the budget for Salisbury's downtown receptacles.
- Recycling should be addressed in the fall spruce up.
<http://www.salisburync.gov/pubserv/sanitation/recycling.html>

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. The next regular CAC meeting will be August 2, 2006.

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